

“REGIONAL TO GLOBAL –THE AUGMENT TRENDS OF INDIAN ENGLISH FICTION”

VIDYA R. PATIL

Assistant Professor, Department of P.G.Studies in English, B.L.D.E.A's S.B. Arts & K.C.P. Science College,
Vijayapur, Karnataka, India

ABSTRACT

The affluence of Indian English Fiction, its regional debate over the Globalised World is the characteristic feature of the 21st Century Fiction World.

The Regional Anthropology has now shifted its Paradigm to the Global Anthropology. The values, though somewhere the essence of nativity remains but the outer world's sparkle is so bright that ,it appears that somewhere Indianess is swept by Global trends.

In this Paper, to observe this fact, the regional culture is taken through the Philosophical attitude of Raja Rao's Cat and Shakespeare to the Phasal Social development in Sudha Murthy's Mahashweta to Globalization in Arunabha Sengupta's Big Apple 2 Bites.

Superficially it begins with the debate between Regional and Global trends in Indian English Fiction but the actual presentation goes with the spreading of Indianness to the entire World and making them sing the high spirits of 'India' with a definite tone so that the motive 'Kutumbha Bhaveva' is tried to be achieved.

Thus a perspective of the ideology through which Globalisation is attained is tried to be built.

KEYWORDS: “Regional to Global –The Augment Trends of Indian English Fiction”, 21st Century Fiction World

INTRODUCTION

Indian English Writing, as a genre developed with the concept of Colonization. This Institution of Colonization made the world nearer and also made the different Societies and their respective Cultures to view one another. The Britishers with Colonial setup and the aspect of Power/Knowledge imposed along with their administration, the language, English. The fever globalization, of this language reached India also and here with an attraction to the 'Whites', Indians learnt this language and were lost in its world. This tremor reached even the field of literature which became a boon when its development was considered.

Indian Writing in English spread out its branches allotting each to one genre and the most flourished branch was the Fiction. This world of Fiction's journey right from the beginning is very interesting and ultimately the status gained now in the present generation is sublime. This field got its recognition as 'Indian English Fiction'.

Indian English Fictionist has seen many scenes of concepts in it and has tried to bring it to the World. It's a step ahead of 'Mimesis'. Its various themes show the diversity wherein different aspects of Life are represented. Among these themes the prominent is the theme of creating awareness among the people. A great contribution of this genre is not only to Literature or to the people and nor restricted regionally but is even extended to the International level.

In this Paper it is tried to present the three major aspects. Primarily, the Philosophical approach in Indian English Fiction and its reflection seen in the West. This is presented through Raja Rao's *Cat and Shakespeare*, a proverbial buildup of an Indian. Secondly, the dealing of the social problems which are a part of Indian Society especially 'The status of Woman'. This aspect is presented through Sudha Murthy's *Mahashweta*. Thirdly, the storm of globalisation which has spread its tentacles and has held the World together is the present reality. This is shown through Arunbha Sengupta's *Big Apple 2 Bites*.

These three aspects is somewhere the actual features of social built-up when the present century is taken and the landmarks of the Past are viewed. Hence it is a journey of Indian English Fiction from Regional to Global where the mentioned three aspects model to build Superstructures.

The Philosophy and its impact on the World, exists since ancient days with the great Epics, Vedas and the Shastras. Earlier there was a general acceptance of West/East in all counters but here with the representative attitude of India gave it a new recognition that is East/West. This can be seen in Transcendentalism proposed by Emerson in America, Walt Whitman's poem 'Passage to India' and T.S.Eliot's 'Wasteland'.

Raja Rao, a great Indian English Fictionist opines that it was the seek of the truth of existence that made him to return to India where the roots of civilisation resides. *Cat and Shakespeare* though presents this with an unusual title holds a concept of the understanding of the truth of this life. This is a sequel to *The Serpent and the Rope* where the East/West encounter goes with, still somewhere a confusion occurs in the mind of the writer where Serpent is the Illusion and Rope is Reality, extended, the former as East and the latter as West. But here in '*Cat and Shakespeare*' he is now having a determined stand and greater Truth is reached. The characters here are the archetypes of the truth of existence. Govind Nair, a clerk by profession is there for assistance to Ramakrishna Pai. Govind Nair is the archetype of God himself who preaches Ramakrishna in every mode of his life. The steps that Ramakrishna climbs is the way shown by Nair and the cat that goes through everyone's life, is the symbol of Indian Tradition and Culture. Sometimes the fear is created in its name itself which is shown in Govind Nair's Boss's case where he dies when cat jumps on his head, engulfed with superstitious beliefs. Here the superstition aspect which is a part of the Philosophical approach both go together. A perfect understanding is nothing but the true Philosophy on which Life Exists. This is the Existential Realism of Life. Ramakrishna Pai now builds his own house. A Room is created where his own view is given with a representative view. The four Ashrams of life is presented where stepwise they are achieved. The Bramhacharya, Gruhastha, Vanaprastha and Sanyasi, where the first two phases are part of each and every individual but the true existence begins with the journey of the soul to reach its destination, the Over-Soul. Passing the other phases one attains salvation. Ramakrishna Pai expresses that standing on the last storey he is able to view the vast ocean, this symbolically means that he has superseded the artificiality of Life and reached a level that everything is viewed with 'His' perspective. The Hindu view of total 'surrender' before God, surrender to 'Mother-Cat' as a cardinal principle of faith. The Mother -Cat to whose protective mouth all kittens surrender themselves. All men are kittens and are carried by the cat, the mother principle 'to be' and 'to know'. Shakespeare here takes the truth of life taken the image of cat of the East goes to the West. East/West perspective is proved where India teaches the World the truth of the existence of the Soul.

The journey now with the commencement of the Truth of Philosophy which builds an ideology now goes to another truth of common man's existence in life, social reality. Here woman is the main feature. Lots of tussle is encountered right from the ancient days and 'SHE' earlier was stated by other's perspective but now has proved herself with

her creation of her own identification. The status of women is a question which existed and continues to exist even in the modern world. This aspect is taken through Sudha Murthy's fiction 'Mahashweta'. Annupama, the protagonist is so beautiful that Dr. Anand is lost in her beauty that even the difference in their status was also not a matter and he married her against the happiness of his mother. Here we find what Sudha Murthy wants to present is that Education is not a reformative mode for setting of the society. A well educated family itself is unaware of the values of humanity and are more society oriented. Annupama gets the skin disease, Leukoderma. Dr. Anand, earlier who was lost in the beauty of his wife is now nowhere in her time of need.

Annupama's performance in a Sanskrit Play "Mahashweta"- 'the white one' had attracted Dr. Anand. This shows that his love was only skin deep. He leaves her when she actually becomes a 'Mahashweta'.

This was just a fiction but its impact on real life was such that a man came forward and married a woman suffering from this disease after reading this fiction. Sudha Murthy attended their marriage and realized the strength of Literature.

Mahashweta shows the woman of strength who fights back in this ruthless society and constructs her life framing an individual identity to it.

The 'Change' experienced with the face of reality shown in the fiction concerning to the most questioned form of 'the status of woman is discussed and overcoming of all odds by the modern world, is shown. A strong woman is born unlike the woman who was burnt in the name of Sati.

The Modern World now is extended to the ultra-modern aspect which is referred to as globalisation. It is now taken into consideration with Arunbha Sengupta's Big Apple 2 Bites. The Writer here brings to the Reader the scents and smells of America. The story revolves around the present Software field and its Professionals. The stressful life of the Techies of this modern world is so well blended with the other things. 'Aikido', a Japanese martial art which is described so extensively that one gets attracted to it. The notion of American Culture as a 'Salad Bowl' is given here.

Sen's life is revolving around Aikido, Allison and designing a Project forecasting model for Software Project planning, until 9/11. The second Bite begins with a subject that is dealt sensitivity. The hollowness of the modern society is presented. Time is a major factor that one is running after it and ultimately for the purpose of the defactor 'MONEY'.

The Big Apple, the pride of America and the epicenter of corporate culture is itself the present trend which every individual desires to follow and possess. The Globalisation has touched even India and they also are now in the race with the world. The use of Aikido throughout the story is to signify the fact that passion and discipline is required in our daily life. This is how modern version of life is harmonized with nature. Later Bhagavad-Gita preaching is given where our Life is a quest of the meanings which makes our journey worthwhile.

CONCLUSIONS

The three aspects presented here in his Paper give the augmentation of the Regional and Globalised trends of the Indian English Fiction. Its impact on the Indians and also the revelation of the philosophical, social and technological tour de force to the West is consummated. This is Indian English Fiction

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